

## Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 04019

## RESOLUTION NO. A-\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the Planning Director, has made application to amend the 2025 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan to add text and map on Capitol View Corridors and text on Urban Design, public art and Urban Design Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln City - Lancaster County Planning Commission has recommended approval thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska that the 2025 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan be and the same is hereby amended in the following manner:

1. Amend Chapter F to "Future Conditions: Community Form," by inserting a new Section under Guiding Principles for the Urban Environment following the end of the Transportation section on page F19:

"Urban Design and Public Art

The American cities generally regarded as especially attractive, such as Charleston, Boston, San Francisco, Savannah, and New Orleans, are older communities with a strong sense of cohesiveness and space. These cities had the advantage that distinctive parts of their fabrics were constructed in previous eras where there were fewer building materials and techniques available, and stronger architectural traditions. In Lincoln, Haymarket and several older neighborhoods demonstrate similar cohesiveness. Today, technology offers much more variety in building materials and techniques. Many contemporary buildings are thought of as "products" that have a more limited economic life. The automobile has generated huge new space and functional demands. All of these factors make it more difficult for communities today to develop and redevelop in an attractive, cohesive manner.

Most cities, including Lincoln, protect their cultural/architectural heritage through formal historic preservation efforts. Lincoln has taken further steps to protect and promote a positive physical character through special design requirements that protect the environs and views of the State Capitol Building—our community's signature urban design asset--and that encourage compatible infill in its older neighborhoods. The Capitol Environs Commission is unique in that its membership includes city and state appointees, and its authority extends to all public and private projects within its district, including State projects. Its authority to identify and project important public vistas to the Capitol should be strengthened."

2. Insert between page F19 and page F20 a Capitol View Corridors: City Perspective Map and Capitol View Corridor's County Perspective Map as shown on Attachments "A" and "B" respectively.

3. Amend Chapter F "Future Conditions: Community Facilities" by adding a new text before Lincoln City Libraries on page F129 to read as follows:

"Urban Design

City government uses the volunteer advisory services of an Urban Design Committee (UDC). This is a group of design professionals and interested citizens appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. The Committee is charged with advising the Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, city boards, and city departments on the design of city buildings and other public projects, major public/private developments, and any private projects constructed on city right of way or other city property. The Committee's intent is to make sure that new public facilities are exemplary – that they provide functional and aesthetically pleasing facilities for the public, and model good design for the private sector. The Commission also works to publicize and reward good design, private as well as public, through an annual awards program.

The benefits of this free advice would be strengthened by including all public projects under UDC review, just as the Environs Commission reviews projects of all local and state governmental units. LES has brought projects to UDC, and Lincoln Public Schools has used the committee's input on siting communication towers. But the Public Building Commission, which provides facilities for City and County government, does not currently benefit by UDC review, although it is the major developer of local government buildings. Lancaster County, the Railroad Safety Transportation District, the Airport Authority, and other units of local government could all utilize this experienced volunteer board.

Public Art:

Cities also can strengthen their sense of place and positive image through promotion of artworks in public places. The Lincoln Arts Council demonstrated the power of public art through its invigorating "Tour de Lincoln" project and is promoting a downtown "art corridor" on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The Arts Council may expand its activities in the future to assist with public art plans for downtown, Antelope Valley, and the city's key entryways.

Lincoln also would improve the design of its public buildings and facilities, and expand its inventory of public artworks, by an early integration of the efforts of artists with architects and engineers on future projects. Cities like Seattle and Phoenix are more interesting places, with a stronger sense of local pride and identity, as a result of their efforts to integrate art in the design of many public construction projects. Most public facilities in Lincoln have been designed without opportunities for artistic expression, or with art added only as an afterthought. Local government should include artists on the design teams for major construction projects from the conceptual stage, and budget to incorporate artistic expression."

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any other references in said plan which may  
2 be affected by the above-specified amendments be, and they hereby are amended to  
3 conform with such specific amendments.

Introduced by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to Form & Legality:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor